



Anthology of Language Minority Student Poetry



**Indiana Department of Education
K-12 ESL Conference**

“You’re an Essential Piece”

March 12, 2007

Division of Language Minority and Migrant Programs
<http://www.doe.state.in.us/lmmp>

WINNER: Elementary School Level

My Two Worlds

At school I just speak English
I have to think before I speak
At home I just speak Spanish
It is easy because I know more Spanish than English
It is hard too speak two languages in this world
But I am happy I can speak them

Brenda B.
Grade: 4
Liberty Elementary
School City of Hobart



WINNER: Middle School Level

I Have Come Here

Off the plane
Through the gate
Entering the land that Columbus found
I have come here.

Into the yellow bus
Walk into school with no uniform
Experiencing classes that I chose
I have come here.

Making international friends
English that connect us
Forming new friendships
I have come here.

Here I go again
Through the school door
Hand in my heart
Looking at the fifty star flag
Reminding the flag that
I have come here.

Wujoon C.
Grade: 8
Jackson Creek Middle School
Monroe County CSC



WINNER: High School Level

Two Countries Make a Person Like Me

I love this country
It makes me better
But I always will try
To remember my Mexico.

The Mexico who saw me
Grow up and made me
Proud of myself

But America gives a new taste
Of happiness

I miss my friends
From Mexico. The same
Who stood with me in sad ends
And always helped me
Even if I don't need them

But now people like
My girlfriend or friends
Who shake
My hands
Even if they are American
And dosen't matter
If I'm MEXICAN
This land of people makes me feel
Proud of myself.

Heriberto M.
Grade: 10
Central High School
Evansville-Vanderburgh SC



Travel, Travel, Travel

I was happy, happy, happy
When I lived in Mexico City
We traveled a lot and
Vacationed every year. But one day
DADDY said we are MOVING!!!!!!

I was sad, sad, sad
And angry angry angry
Maybe we were moving to
FRANCE, GERMANY,
AUSTRALIA, OR U.S.

We thought, thought and thought.
And finally decided to move to
The UNITED STATES!!!

I was stressed, stressed, stressed
When I arrived in to the U.S. I didn't
Have a clue about this country or the
States.....I didn't know a thing!!!!!!!!!!

But now I have friends, family
Teachers snow, grand parents to live with
NOW I AM.....happy, happy, happy

It doesn't matter where I live,
Or travel, I will always have
A HOME, HOME, HOME

Lysbet M.
Grade: 5
Cedar Canyon Elementary
Northwest Allen County Schools



My Story: From Russia to America

I was 11 yers old when I was adopted.
American family came to Russia and they
found me, Anya. I was sad and scared
because my new mom and Dad spoke in
English. I traveled in an airplane. I stopped
in New York City and to Cincinatti and then
finally to fort wayne. At the airport there was
a lot of people to greet us! Then we went to
my house and I felt a sleep. My new family is
the P. family. There are 4 of us. Mellissa,
Mom, Dad and Me. I miss My Russian friends
but I have a lot of American friends now, like
Mallory and Becca and Lyzbet!

Anna P.
Grade: 5
Cedar Canyon Elementary
Northwest Allen County Schools

I Like Being Me

I like being me.
One day you will see.
I will be a doctor
And help my community,
My family will be proud.
To see me working hard
Helping people around the world
Hoping for a cure.
I will always do my best.

Lorens B.
Grade: 5
George Earle Elementary
School City of Hobart



Two Pieces of Me

I feel like I am in two pieces
Like a pie you cut in half.

I speak Spanish
And English but I
Still feel like in two pieces.

One American piece
And one Hispanic piece
Makes a pie cut in half.

Alexa R.
Grade: 6
Plaza Park Middle School
Evansville-Vanderburgh SC

How I Felt Becoming a Citizen

In December of 2006
I went to Oklahoma
To become a citizen
I felt excited, nervous and shy
I had to sign papers and felt happy and also
important
Becoming a citizen will make my life better
I will have better housing and a chance for a
greater career.

Aaron F.
Grade: 5
Liberty Elementary
School City of Hobart



Bilingualism

Being a bilingual person
Is very hard because
Learning another language
takes time. Learning another
language
Is hard because it is
Not your first language. It is
Good for you to know different languages.
Understanding and speaking two or more
languages
Allows you to have more jobs in your
Life and have more opportunities.
In my life
Spanish is
My first language

Yazmin B.
Grade: 8
Scribner Middle School
New Albany-Floyd County Schools

Lady Liberty

Green, Independent, Fair, Enormous
Relative of France
Cares deeply about Humanity, Immigrants,
the Poor Who feels Happiness, Pride, Sadness
Who needs Respect, Vigilance, Attention
Who gives Justice, Freedom, Hope Who would
like to see people caring for each other
Resident of America.

Maria R.
Grade: 5
Northeast Elementary
Greenwood CSC

Mexican American

What does this mean?
Is it just a cultural thing?
Shouldn't it linger in my mind,
Control my days, until I find
American spirit, American ways,
Happiness here the rest of my days?

I say, go back to my roots.
Go back to Aztec and Spanish truths.
Sacrifice and religion is what I'll use
To follow all my daily cues.
To help others with the American dream,
I already have mine, so I've seen.

Lorena M.
Grade: 8
Schmucker Middle School
Penn Harris Madison School Corporation

Coming to America

When I left my family,
I was sad because I came to America. When I
came to America,
I was so happy because I saw my sister and
my Dad.

In my first day that I saw my Dad,
I said to him, "Is it going to snow?"

When I was in America,
My grandmother call to my mom to say
My dog died.

When I was in America,
It was the first day that
I saw snow.

Everardo M.
Grade: 4
Jackson Elementary
Seymour CS

How I Fit In

I came when I was seven
I've been here for three years
I do my personal best
I don't do put downs
I make my friends feel better if they are sad
I compliment my friends on their work
I want to be a vegetarian

Jomana B.
Grade: 3
Joan Martin Elementary
School City of Hobart



The Love That Can't Break

It's a love of two that can't be broken.
It's like when kids get jealous because
You like other kids but you say my heart
Is big enough for more, you know now your
Heart is big enough for two countries.

Garegin E.
Grade: 8
Helfrich Park Middle School
Evansville-Vanderburgh SC

The Difference between Asian and American

Many things are difference between Asian and American.
They have their own culture, that's interesting. They look very difference.
Also they have difference skin color, that's why they look so difference.
Rice is the most important food in the Asian Country. Every day they need to eat rice. Potatoes are the most important food for American. Many thing make with potato, they can't live without potato.

Carmen Z.
Grade: 10
Harrison High School
Evansville-Vanderburgh SC



Tale of the Misfit Girl

American born
Two-way torn
Taiwan culture
American literature
Inside an Asian
Taught like a Caucasian
All are ordeals
An ABC* conceals

Her pride of her race
Placed in a case
Put to the side
Gone with the tide

Though the tale of this girl
In a culture-dance-twirl
Is not always dark
Not a permanent mark
Language count-three
The tongue of the free
The misfit girl
Education pearl

She goes on
Dawn after dawn

*American Born Chinese

Ivy Y.
Grade: 8
Schmucker Middle School
Penn Harris Madison School Corporation

